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COLCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting

Wednesday, June 18, 2025
6:00 PM
William J. Johnston Middle School BlackBox Theatre

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT : Chair Donna Antonacci, Vice-Chair Christopher Rivers, Secretary Margo Gignac, Alexander Oliphant, Michelle Millington, Rosemary Gignac and Stefanie Tracey-Calash.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT : Superintendent Daniel P. Sullivan, III, Assistant Superintendent Jessica L. Kuckel, Director of Pupil Services Eve Hurley, Assistant Director of Pupil Services Rebecca Tedesco, Bacon Academy (BA) Principal Amy Begué, BA Assistant Principal Michael Mal, William J Johnston Middle School (WJJMS) Principal Christopher Bennett, WJJMS Assistant Principal Stacy Ewings, Jack Jackter Intermediate School (JJIS) Interim Principal Melissa Cyr, Colchester Elementary School (CES) Principal Judy O'Meara, CES Assistant Principal Meghan Amado.

OTHERS PRESENT : Director of Finance and Operations Rachel Linkkila, Instructional Technology Coordinator Barbara Johnson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Alyssa Fratoni.

1. **MEETING OPENING**
   1.1. Call to Order
   D.Antonacci called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM

   1.2 Roll Call
   All Board Members present

   1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   2.1. For Public Comments, please see Policy 1120 *Public Comment and Correspondence at Board Meetings*
   None

3. ***CONSENT AGENDA**
   3.1. *Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2025
   Motion by: M.Millington
   Motion to approve
   Second: R.Gignac

Roll Call: 5 in favor, 2 abstentions (C.Rivers and S.Tracey-Calash)
Vote: Motion carried

3.2. *Approval of BA Valedictorian Prize Donation
Motion by: C.Rivers
Motion to approve
Second: R.Gignac
Roll Call: All in favor
Vote: Motion carried

4. POLICY SECOND READ

4.1. 4112.8 *Nepotism*
Motion by: C.Rivers
Motion to approve policy edits to agenda items 4.1 through 4.3
Second: M.Gignac
Roll Call: All in favor
Vote: Motion carried

4.2. 4118.112 *Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Personnel)*
See 4.1

4.3. 4118.5 *Policy Regarding Employee Use of the District's Computer Systems and Electronic Communications*
See 4.1

5. *PRIORITY DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

5.1. Appreciation for "Colchester is Kind" Fundraiser

A fundraiser inspired by a similar initiative was held by Colchester is Kind to support student meal debt, resulting in a contribution of $1,900 toward school lunch balances.

5.2. *Assign Budget Finance Committee to Approve End of Year Transfers
Motion by: M.Gignac
Motion to assign Budget Finance Committee to Approve End of Year Transfers
Second: R.Gignac
Roll Call: All in favor
Vote: Motion carried

5.3. *Presentation and Discussion around School Safety

Peter Norberg, Trevor Chandler, and Sgt. Zachary Cash presented on the potential use of License Plate Readers (LPRs) at one or more school locations, with units facing school buildings to enhance school safety. The Board agreed to conduct individual research and compile questions in preparation for a focused discussion at the next meeting. A request was made for the presentation slide deck for further review. Superintendent Sullivan emphasized the importance of addressing safety and security concerns, incorporating feedback from building principals, and maintaining the trust of parents and the broader community. The discussion will continue at the regularly scheduled meeting in August.

5.4. *Appointment of CES Assistant Principal

Motion by: M.Gignac

Motion to appoint Kelly Bahre as the Assistant Principal of Colchester Elementary School effective July 1, 2025.

Second: R.Gignac
Roll Call: All in favor
Vote: Motion carried

5.5. *Appointment of WJJMS Assistant Principal

Motion by: M.Gignac

Motion to appoint Bonnie McAneny as the Assistant Principal of William J. Johnston Middle School effective August 18, 2025.

Second: R.Gignac
Roll Call: All in favor
Vote: Motion carried

5.6. Recognition of Retiring WJ Principal

The Board celebrated the career of Chris Bennett as Principal of William J. Johnston Middle School. Members of the Board, the administrative team, and retired Board members expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Bennett for his dedicated service and leadership to Colchester Public Schools.

6. ADJOURNMENT & RECEPTION

Motion by: C.Rivers

Motion to adjourn.

Second: S.Tracey-Calash
Roll Call: All in favor
Vote: Motion carried

D.Antonacci adjourned the meeting at 7:06 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Fratoni
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent